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WEST CENTRAL MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE

2000 Fifth Avenue, Building N  
River Grove, IL 60171  
ph 708/453-9100 fax 708/453-1301  
www.westcook.org

**RECEIVED**

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**HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

September 27, 2018

Ms. Courtney Avery

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board

525 W. Jefferson, Second Floor  
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Dear Ms. Avery:

This correspondence shall serve to express our endorsement for a Certificate of Need to be granted for the proposed DaVita Dialysis Center, 1985 N. Mannheim Road, Melrose Park, Illinois.

In this regard, inasmuch as seniors and other regional individuals suffering from kidney disease require a regular course of dialysis treatments, this facility would meet the medical needs of the community.

Collaterally, Melrose Park currently has two relatively small dialysis centers; however, the capacity at both sites is projected to be above optimal levels in short proximity of time. Consequently, local patients will be caused to choose inconvenient treatment times or more distant drives.

Statistically, it is my understanding that in Illinois, there is one dialysis Station for every 2,694 residents. However, in the Melrose Park service area, there is one station for every 5,710 patients. These facts belie that access in Melrose Park is disproportionately disadvantaged vis-à-vis access statewide. Accordingly, dialysis services are more difficult for community members to access.

The West Central Municipal Conference (WCMC), a regional council of local governments, established in 1980, is membership supported association representing a population of over 750,000. With 51-member entities, the WCMC unites an area of over 200 square miles. As such, the Village of Melrose Park is a Conference member dedicated to our mission of regionalism in relation to our collective quality of life.

Lastly, the DeVita group is ranked number 181 on the Fortune 500 listing, operating a network of 2,510 dialysis centers across our Nation. For all of the above aspects of our analysis, we urge this Honorable Board to approve DeVita's application. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Pellegrino", with a large, stylized initial "R" that loops around the first part of the name.

Richard F. Pellegrino  
Executive Director

Cc: Michael DelGaldo, General Counsel